GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4200
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
SMART CARDS
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI;SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news item captioned `EPF body toissue smart cards soon`, appearing in the Economic Times, New Delhi on June 29, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plan of EPFO to network its organisation; and

(d) the amount earmarked by EPFO for modernisation of its organisation/schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (d): Government has seen the news item. Modernization programme proposed by Employees Provident Fund Organisation involves re-engineering of the existing work process, re-tooling of accounting system and setting up of a information technology/computer enabled system through networking of all offices of Employees Provident Fund Organisation. It envisages providing all services to every member from any EPF location on a real-time basis. This programme is to enable the subscriber to access his account, balance and file his claim from any of the Offices of the EPFO as against the presentsystem which limits him to only one office where he is registered and to reduce the time between the receipt of claim and issue of cheque to 2-3 days as against the present stipulated time of 30 days.

The first phase of the modernization programme involves setting up of pilot centres in six locations covering all four zones to be made operational in a time span of 24 months.

The annual cost of the modernisation project is to be met by Employees` Provident Fund Organisation out of its annual Budget estimate provision under the head `Computerisation`.